



# **North Reading Open Space and Recreation Plan**

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## **Public Meeting #1**

December 5, 2019

Ella Wise

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

## Tonight's Agenda

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1. Get to know your neighbor
2. Presentation
3. Discussion
4. Open House stations
5. Next steps

# Get to know your neighbor

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Name &  
Favorite park, trail, or open space





# Open Space and Recreation Plans

# What is open space?

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# Why complete an Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP)?

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1. Support community protection and **stewardship** of vital resources
  - Identifies where you are
  - Where you want to go
  - How to get there over next 7 years
2. Completion of an OSRP makes municipalities **eligible to apply for State grants** to acquire and improve land for conservation and recreation



## Town of North Reading Open Space and Recreation Plan

Prepared by Brown Walker Planners, Inc. with the North  
Reading Open Space Plan Committee

March 2013

# Who is writing the OSRP?

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- Metropolitan Area Planning Council
  - Ella Wise
  - Ralph Willmer



- OSRP Committee
  - Town Staff: Danielle McKnight, Maureen Stevens, Marty Tilton
  - Public members: Liane Gonzalez, Rita Mullin, Randy Mason, Phil Hertz



- Public
  - YOU!!!



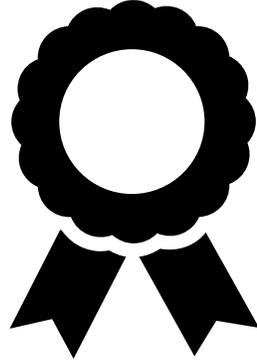
# What is the planning process?

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550 survey responses

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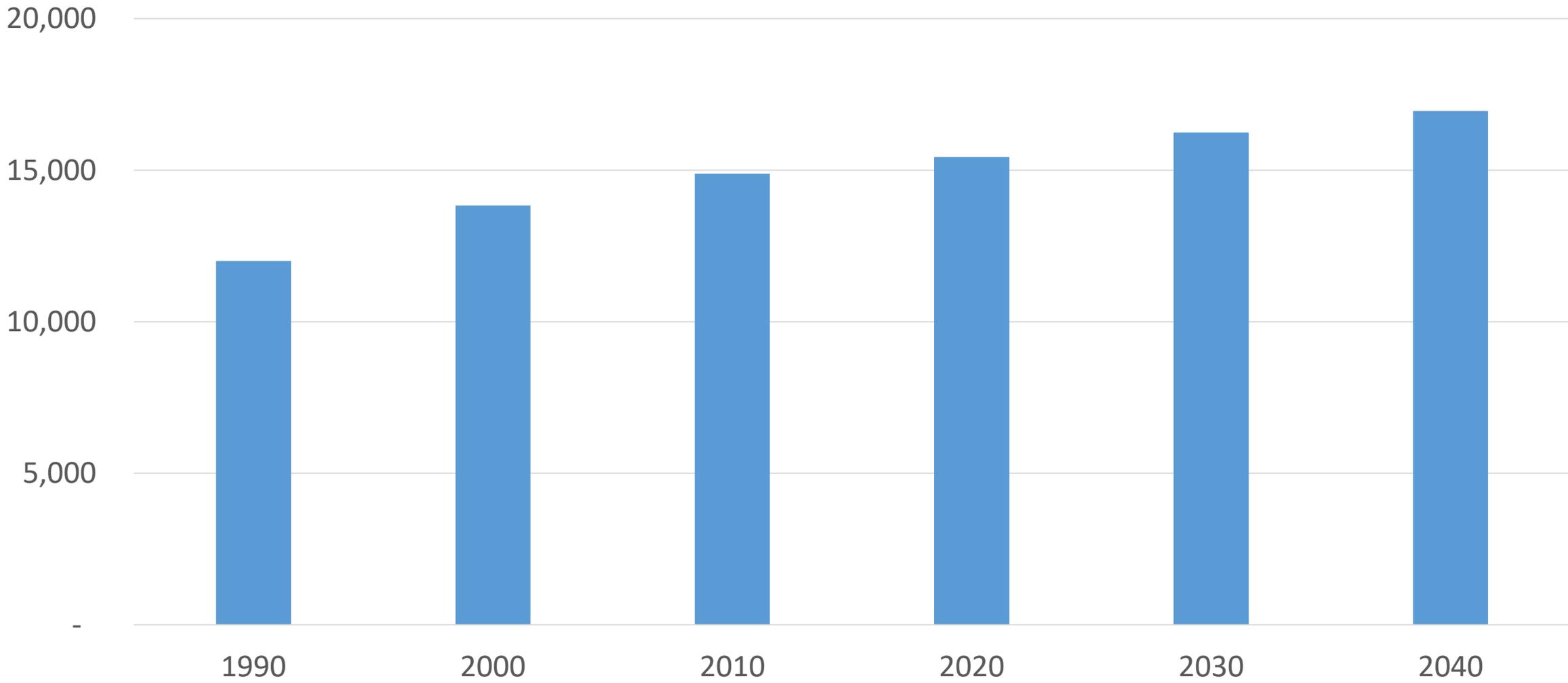


- That's more than 1 in 30 residents
- THANK YOU to Committee members



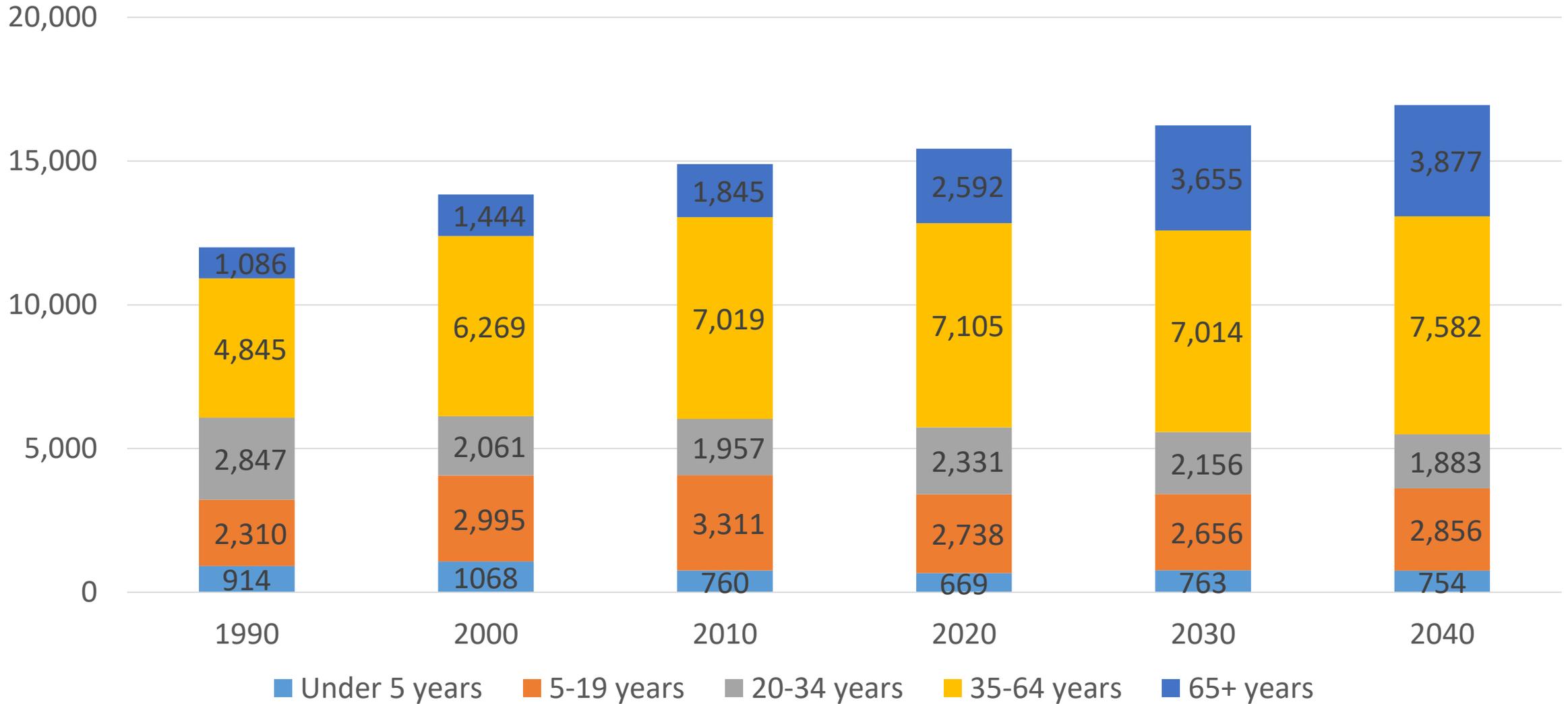
# Existing Conditions

# Historical and Projected Population



Source: MAPC, 2011

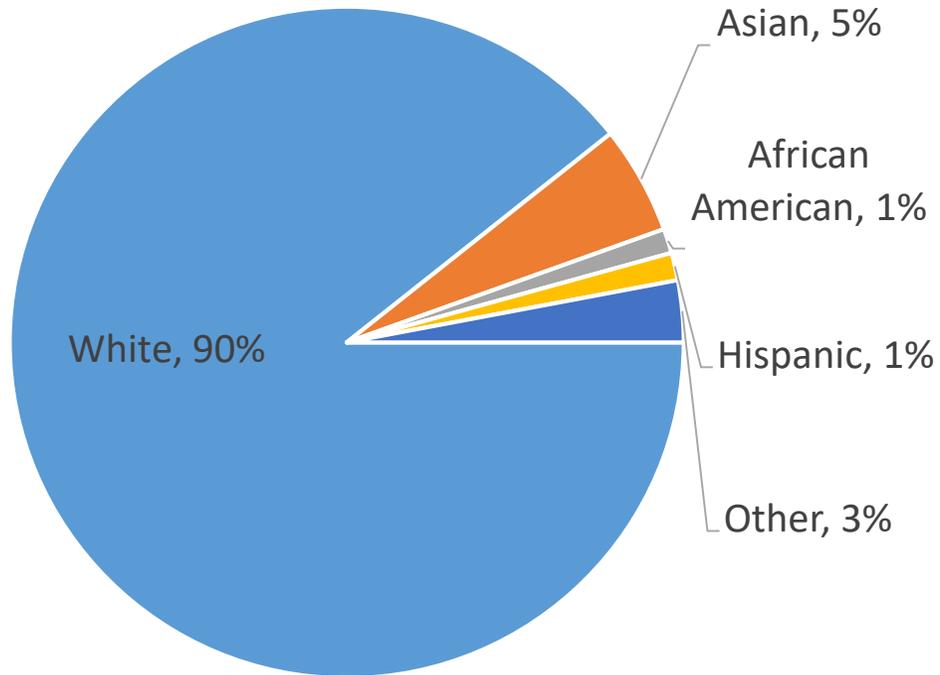
# Historical and Projected Population by Age Group



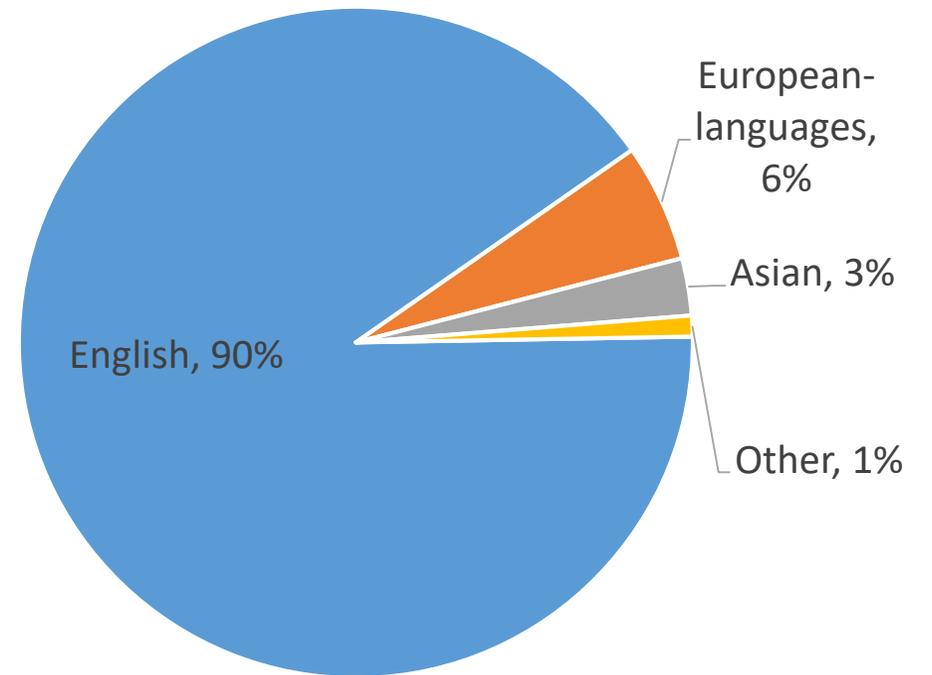
# Demographics

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% Population by Race



% Population by Language Spoken at Home



# EXISTING LAND USE

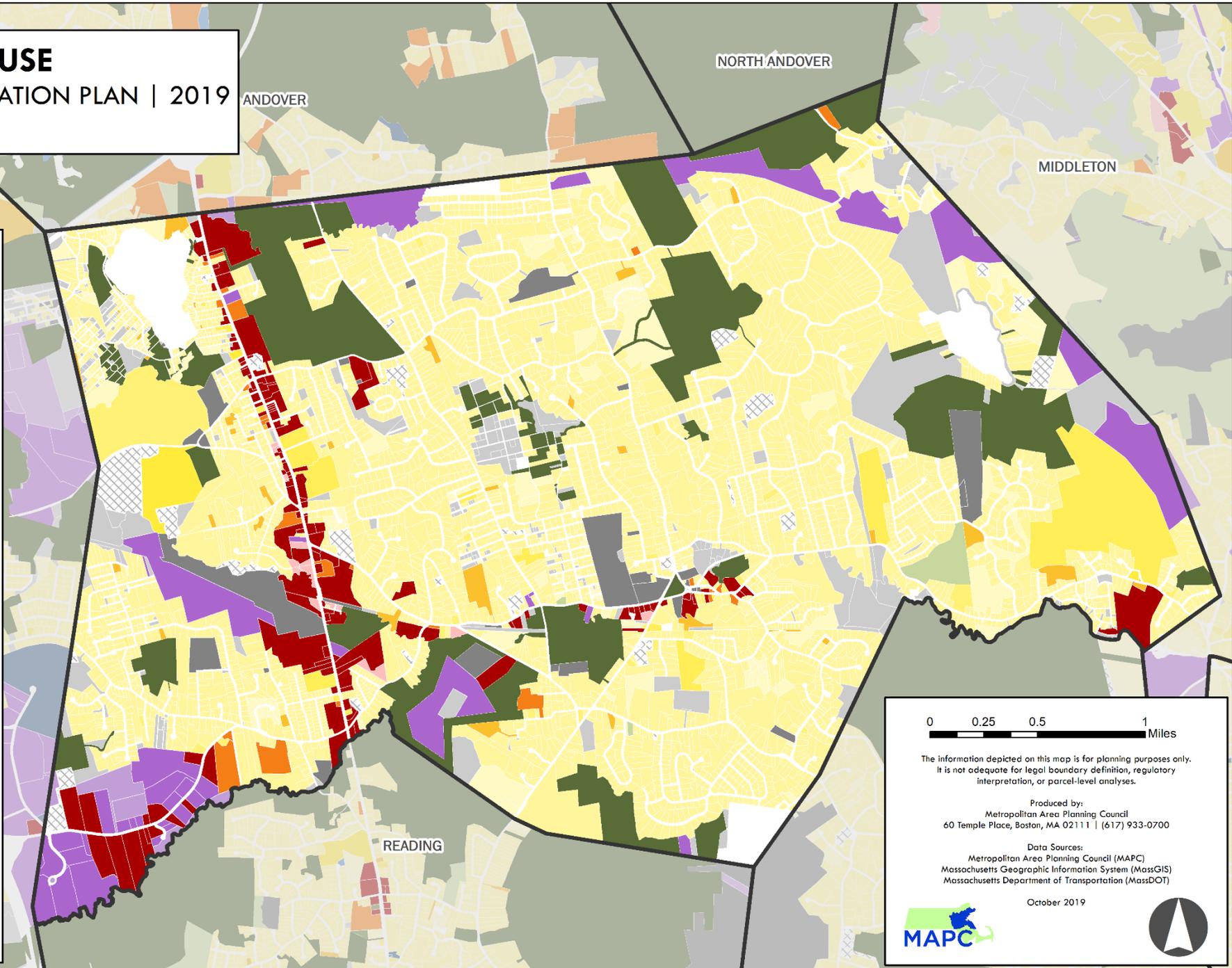
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN | 2019  
NORTH READING, MA

 Town Boundaries

**Massachusetts Land Parcel Database**

**Standard Land Use Code (min)**

-  Residential Vacant
-  Single Family Residence
-  Two/Three Family Residential
-  Condominium
-  Apartments 4 or more units
-  Group Quarters
-  Residential Other
-  Mixed Use
-  Commercial Vacant
-  Commercial
-  Industrial Vacant
-  Industrial
-  Open Space
-  Permanently Protected Open Space
-  Other Agricultural or Recreational
-  Municipal Vacant
-  Federal, State or Municipal
-  Institutional/Exempt Vacant
-  Institutional/Exempt
-  Tax Exempt Other
-  Unknown



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analyses.

Produced by:  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council  
60 Temple Place, Boston, MA 02111 | (617) 933-0700

Data Sources:  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)  
Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS)  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)

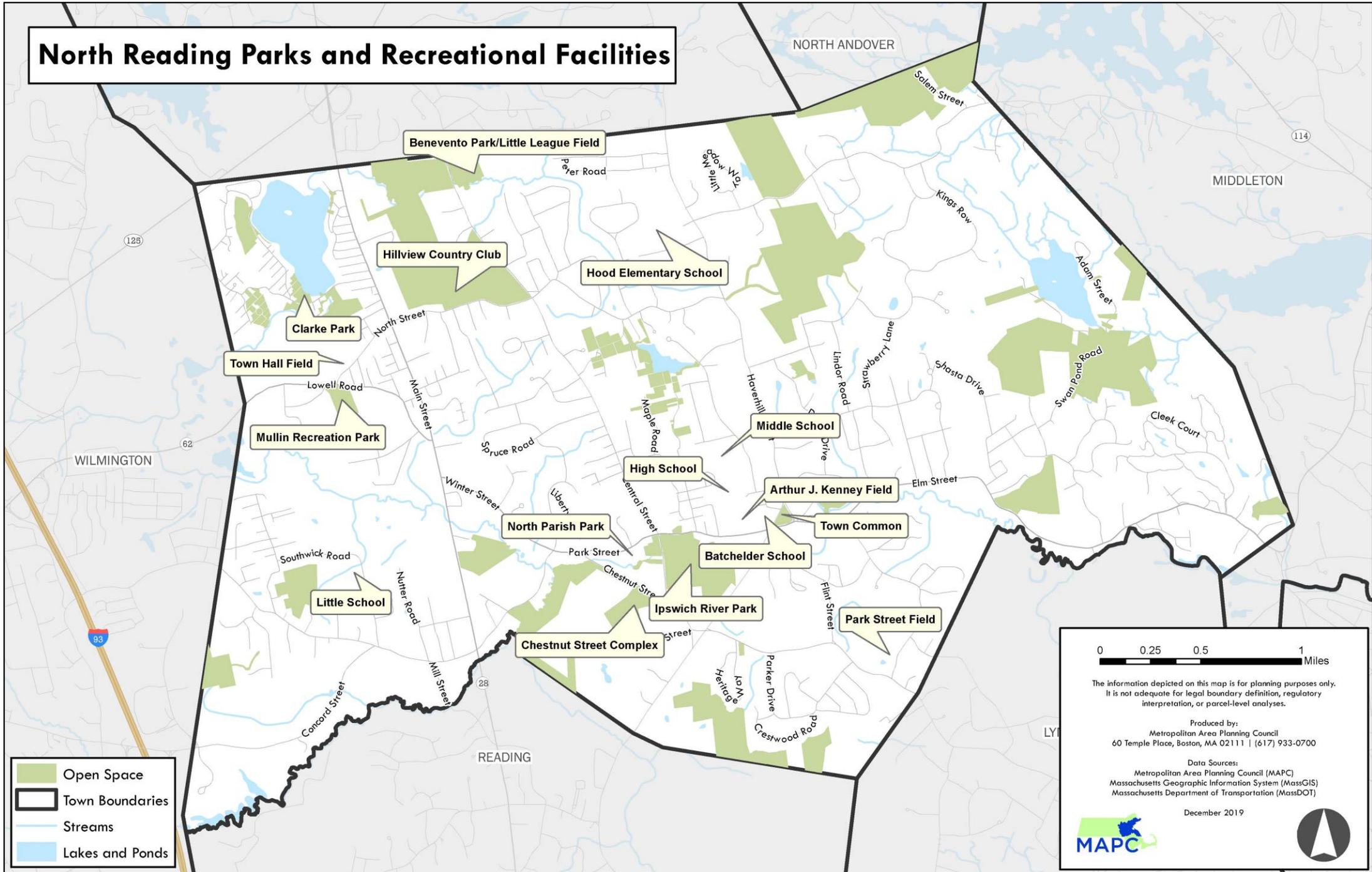
October 2019



A scenic view of a large lake with a forested shoreline in the background and reeds in the foreground. The text "Open Space Inventory" is overlaid in the center.

# Open Space Inventory

# North Reading Parks and Recreational Facilities



- Open Space
- Town Boundaries
- Streams
- Lakes and Ponds

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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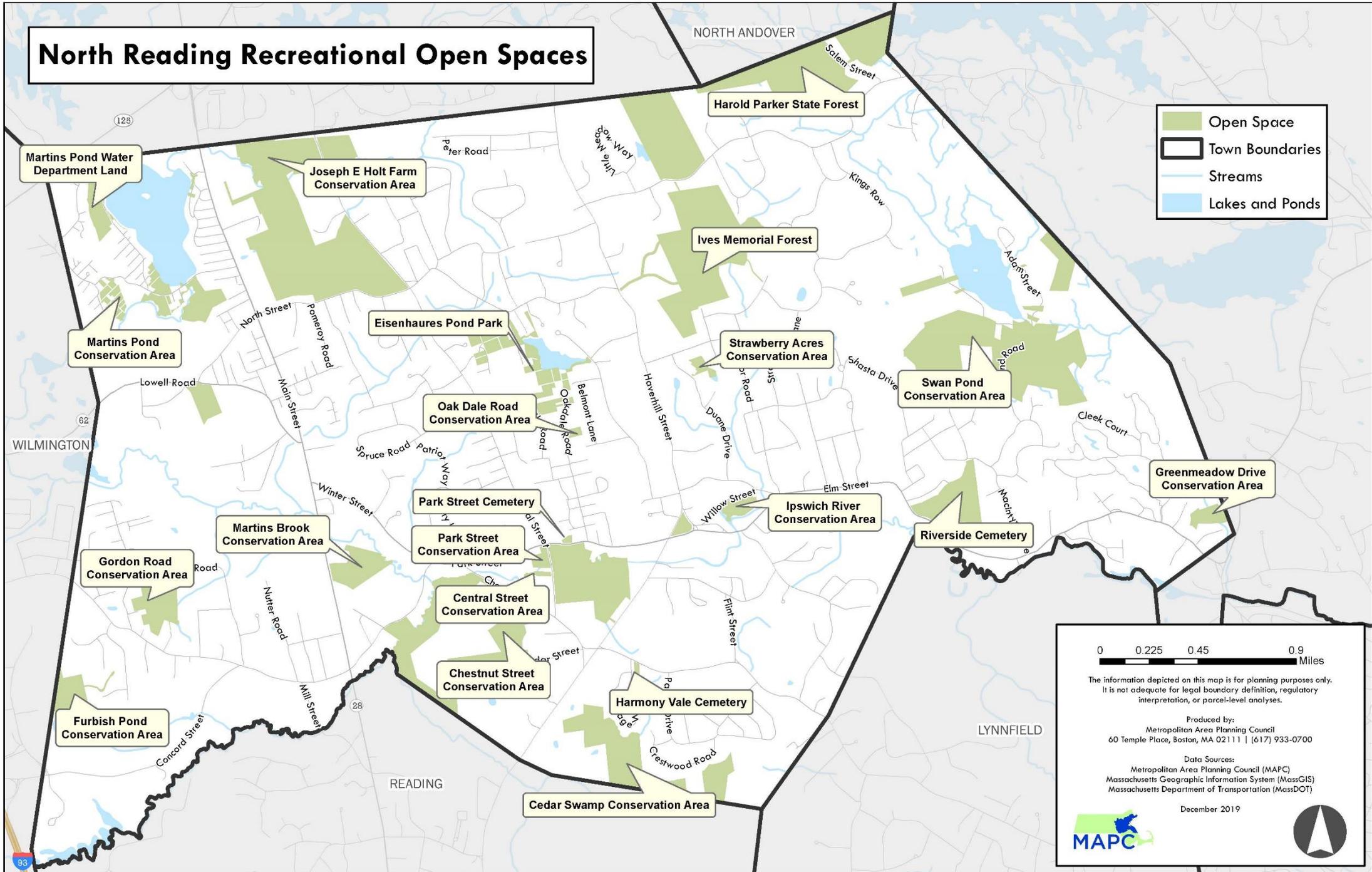
Data Sources:  
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December 2019




# North Reading Recreational Open Spaces

-  Open Space
-  Town Boundaries
-  Streams
-  Lakes and Ponds



0 0.225 0.45 0.9 Miles

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# Key Sites: Ipswich River Park

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- Town owned
- 50 acres
- Paved trail, playground, pavilion, soccer fields, and more

## Key Sites: Benevento Memorial Field

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- Town owned
- 12 acres
- Publicly accessible
- Baseball fields, concession stand, pavilion, and bathrooms

## Key Sites: Harold Parker State Forest

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- State owned
- 2,050 acres
- Forested land that extends into a larger park in North Andover

## Key Sites: Swan Pond Conservation Area

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- Town owned
- 370 acres
- Publicly accessible
- Forested land

A scenic view of a large lake with a wooden dock in the foreground, surrounded by reeds and a forested shoreline in the background. The text "Open House" is overlaid in the center.

# Open House

# Activities

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1. Group discussion
2. Open House Stations

# Activities

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## 1. Group discussion

- STRENGTHS: existing resources
- WEAKNESSES: existing needs or areas of improvement
- OPPORTUNITIES: external factors that could be of benefit
- THREATS: external factors that could have negative impacts

## 2. Open House Stations

# Activities

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1. Group discussion
2. Open House stations
  - Station 1 Goals & Objectives
  - Station 2 Scenic & Unique Features
  - Station 3 Open Space Mapping

## Next steps

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1. Take the survey: [mapc.ma/parksurvey](https://mapc.ma/parksurvey)
2. Come to the next public forum in February
3. Ask questions:

Danielle McKnight, Town Planner, North Reading

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Ella Wise, Senior Land Use Planner, MAPC

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